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Dearne Urban District Council

REPORT

ON THE

Health of the District

DURING THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31st, 1953

by

Dr. JOHN LEIPER, M.B.E.,
Medical Officer of Health

together with the

Report of the Chief Sanitary
Inspector

Mr. G. H. ALLEMBY.

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DEARNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members of the Public Health Committee: 1953.

Chairman:

Councillor J. NOBLE

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor J. F. OLDHAM

Councillors:

Mrs. E. A. CHAMBERS	E. AUSTWICK
J. W. BEDFORD	N. BELL
C. EVANS	W. FAWCETT
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F. ROBSON	H. V. ROWLEY
S. M. TIERNEY	J. F. TIERNEY

Medical Officer of Health:

JOHN LEIPER, M.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. B. R. A. DEMAINE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

G. H. ALLEMBY, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Insp. of Meat and other Foods, Cert. R.S.I. Smoke Inspector, Shop Acts Inspector.

District Sanitary Inspectors:

W. WEBSTER, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., A.R. San. I.
T. DUFFY, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., A.R. San. I., Cert. Insp. of Meat and other Foods.

The Dearne Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1953.

Divisional Public Health Office,
Council Offices,
Adwick Road,
Mexborough.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual report for the year 1953, and in it I have tried to give a picture of the health of your District during the year and to emphasise the trends of changes occurring in your District.

Again this year I am glad to say there has been a minimum number of deaths from infection of all types, and the main causes of death continue to be diseases of the heart and blood vessels, malignant disease, and acute and chronic lung conditions.

In the latter regard during the year I am glad to say that the Council decided to authorise expenditure for the provision of one pollution gauge and six lead peroxide gauges.

The corrected Death rate is under the average for the country, but as I have said before more account of morbidity or sickness rates amongst the inhabitants is necessary before assessing the health of the District.

The low-lying nature of the District adjoining the Dearne River, the dampness of the earth in that area and the tendency for the accumulation of fog, gave rise to anxiety when it was realised that the National Coal Board were to build over one hundred houses on what was called the Mount Pleasant Site. My views were made plain to you that I thought that building on this site was inadvisable as the dampness would, in my opinion, prove unhealthy, and in any case any houses erected would, in the course of time,

become liable to subsidence—shown by existing houses built in that area. As a result, the scheme for building houses on this site was abandoned.

Regarding the personal health services carried out in your area, I am very glad to say that there is nothing but cordial co-operation between General Practitioners in your District and the Public Health Department and that this happy relationship is now well established to the benefit of the District.

Dr. J. K. W. Morris retired from general practice during the early part of the year after a lifetime's work in general practice and for twenty-seven years of this time being Part Time Medical Officer of Health to your District.

In May of 1953, Dr. B. R. A. Demaine was appointed Deputy Medical Officer of Health to your District and also as Deputy Divisional Medical Officer, following the Division being designated as an "A" Division by the West Riding County Council.

Dr. Demaine also commenced duties as Medical Officer in charge of the Child Welfare Clinic at Goldthorpe, and following this, the routine Immunisation Sessions of children against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough were successfully started there.

During the year and looking back on the previous six years I am quite certain that the living standard of families in your District is improving. Are we not all apt to forget that only four or five years ago your main difficulties in this regard concerned the families squatting at the ex W.D. Camp Site in Lowfield Road, which has now been cleared?

The link with hospitals in the District is maintained as a routine measure by the fact that the Obstetrician in charge of the Ante-Natal Clinics in your District also holds the appointment of Obstetrician at the Montagu Hospital, and thus works both at the local hospitals and in the Child Welfare Clinics. Also the consultant Paediatrician holds clinics both at the Montagu Hospital Mexborough and at the Child Welfare Centre Mexborough.

In my opinion the health of the District remains quite satisfactory and steady improvements in standards of health noted in previous years still continues.

I wish to thank the Council for their help and keen interest in Public Health, and I appreciate the support I have had from them during the year.

I have enjoyed the easy working with all the officers of the Council during the year, and wish to thank them for their valued advice and co-operation, especially Mr. G. H. Allemby, your Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Lastly I wish to thank my own staff for their efficient service and co-operation.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN LEIPER,

Medical Officer of Health,

The Dearne Urban District Council.

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,888
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population mid-1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	24,620
Number of inhabited houses (31st December, 1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,261
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£96,954
Net Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£369
Rainfall for year (in inches)	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.18
Number of days on which rain fell	...	...	...	...	...	...	149

The population of your District as estimated by the Registrar General, is the highest ever recorded and shows an increase over last year of 320. The number of inhabited houses has also increased during 1953 by 636. The majority of these dwellings were built under the National Coal Board's schemes. The rateable value is also the highest recorded and the net product of a penny rate is £24 higher than in the previous year.

The rainfall for the year is the second lowest ever recorded and during one period in 1953 there were 33 days without rain which is the longest dry spell recorded in your District.

As in my Report for last year, I include below a table showing the trend of the above statistics over the last eight years.

	DEARNE U.D.							
	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Area (in acres)			3,888					
Registrar General's estimate of resident population ..	23,270	23,330	23,860	24,170	24,240	24,240	24,300	24,620
No. of inhabited houses ..	5,977	6,111	6,314	6,426	6,465	6,499	6,625	7,261
Rateable Value (£'s)	89,625	88,505	88,560	77,891	91,194	91,834	93,845	96,954
Sum represented by a penny rate (£'s)	327	330	321	325	333	334	345	369
Annual Rainfall	31.57"	22.98"	22.7"	20.96"	25.07"	28.44"	19.54"	18.18"
No of days on which rain fell	179	156	164	135	177	189	169	149

Vital Statistics for 1953.

				Males	Females	Total
Live Births: Legitimate ...	...	...	...	246	212	458
Illegitimate ...	...	...	...	8	11	19
Stillbirths ...	...	...	...	8	2	10
Deaths of Infants under 1 year ...	...	...	...	7	7	14
Deaths (all ages) ...	...	...	...	103	94	197

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—

(Crude) ...	...	...	...	...	...	19.37
(Corrected) ...	...	...	...	...	...	20.53
Stillbirths—Rate per 1,000 Births (Live and Still) ...	...	...	...	...	...	20.53
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	...	...	...	...	...	8.01
Corrected Figure (comparability figure 1.29) ...	...	...	...	...	...	10.33

(Comparability factors to be used for correcting Crude Deaths and Birth Rates are as follows):—

Births	Deaths	
1.06	1.29	
	Deaths	Death-rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	Nil	0.00
---------------------------------	-----	------

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age:

All Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	29.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	30.57
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	...	...	0.00

Deaths from:

Cancer (all ages) ...	...	...	...	35
Measles (all ages) ...	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	...	...	...	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages) ...	...	...	...	7
Other forms of Tuberculosis (all ages) ...	...	...	...	1

The total number of Live Births, 477, shows an increase of 27 on last year's figure and is 11 higher than the number recorded in 1951.

The number of Still Births recorded is lower than the average since the end of the last war, and is the same figure as for 1952.

The death rate of Infants under the age of 1 year which in 1952 had fallen to the low figure of 18 per thousand related live births, increased in 1953 to 29.

It is pleasing to note from the above statistics that there were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough during the year, but as in 1952, there was again one death from Diarrhœa in a child under two years of age.

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis shows an increase of two over the figure for last year when the lowest number of deaths from this disease was recorded in your District.

There was a decrease of 13 in the number of deaths from Malignant diseases in the Dearne Urban District during 1953, but as this still continues to be a major cause of death in the area, a table summarising the causes of death under this heading which have been recorded since 1948 is set out below:—

Deaths from Cancer

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	8 1	3 3	5 5	5 4	9 —	3 6
Malignant Neoplasm, bronchus	— —	— —	4 —	8 —	4 —	5 —
Malignant Neoplasm, breast..	— 3	— 3	— 1	— —	— 8	— 4
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus						
(F) buccal cavity and						
Oesophagus (M)	— 5	1 4	— —	— 2	— 3	— 2
Other Malignant and						
Lymphatic Neoplasms ..	15 14	11 12	6 3	17 9	13 11	9 6

Deaths from all Causes during 1953

Causes of Death				Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	4	3
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	1	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-

Causes of death					Males	Females
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1	-
8.	Measles	...	...	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	3	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	5	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	-	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	-	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	9	6
15.	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	-	-
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	19	19
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	6	3
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	3	3
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	17	15
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	1	3
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	3	8
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	11	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	-
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	...	...	...	-	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	2	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	9	12
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	3	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	-	-
					—	—
					103	94
					—	—

The total number of deaths recorded from all causes last year was 52 fewer than in 1951, and there was a further decrease of 33 in 1953 compared with 1952. Full details of the number of deaths since 1944 are as follows:—

Year	Est. Mid-yr. Population	Total No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rate
1944	22,620	235	11.6 per 1,000
1945	22,870	243	11.4 „
1946	23,270	230	9.88 „
1947	23,330	274	12.0 „
1948	23,860	259	10.85 „
1949	24,170	252	10.4 „
1950	24,240	191	7.88 „
1951	24,240	282	11.63 „
1952	24,300	230	9.46 „
1953	24,620	197	8.01 „

It will be seen from the table showing the causes of deaths in 1953, that the deaths attributable to diseases of the heart and blood vessels (89 deaths), malignant diseases (35 deaths) and bronchitis and pneumonia (27 deaths) accounted for 75% of the total.

The question arises as to how many of the deaths from these three causes can be associated with atmospheric pollution which is much in evidence during the foggy periods of the year.

The encouraging trend noted last year with regard to the reduction in the number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis, continued in 1953. Although there was an increase of two fatal cases, the figure of eight deaths for the year compares favourably with the years preceding 1952.

Seven accidental deaths were recorded in the year, two were road accidents and the remainder occurred at work or in the home.

Suitable propaganda prepared by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents has been made available to the Public Health Nurses for distribution to the general public and for exhibition at Child Welfare Centres in the Divisional area.

The following tables compare the various rates for your District with those for England and Wales as a whole, the 160 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and the 160 Smaller Towns, and secondly with the rates for the Administrative County of the West Riding and the aggregate of Urban Districts in the West Riding.

England and Wales	160 C.B.'s and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (Res. Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Administrative County	Dearne Urban District
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Rates per 1,000 Home Population

Births:

Live births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	19.3
Still births	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	0.40
			22.4 (a)	24.8 (a)	21.4 (a)	21.0 (a)	20.5 (a)

Deaths:

All Causes	..	..	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	8.01
Typhoid and para- typhoid	..	..	0.00	0.00	—	—	0.00
Whooping cough	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Tuberculosis	..	..	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	0.32
Influenza	..	..	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.00
Smallpox	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Acute poliomyelitis (including polio- encephalitis)	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.04
Pneumonia	..	..	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64	0.41

Notifications (corrected)

Typhoid fever	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal infection	..	..	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.04
Scarlet Fever	..	..	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02	3.04
Whooping cough	..	..	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30	4.5
Diphtheria	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Erysipelas	..	..	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.36
Smallpox	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Measles	..	..	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09	6.5
Pneumonia	..	..	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73	1.5
Acute poliomyelitis (including polio- encephalitis)—							
Paralytic	..	..	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.16
Non-paralytic	..	..	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.00
Food poisoning	..	..	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38	0.00
Puerperal pyrexia	..	..	18.23 (a)	24.33 (a)	12.46 (a)	28.61 (a)	8.3 (a)

Rates per 1,000 Live Births

Deaths:

All causes under 1 year of age	..	..	26.8 (b)	30.8	24.3	24.8	29.3
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age			1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	2.09

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.

THE DEARNE URBAN DISTRICT

DISTRICT	Estimated Home Population (Middle 1953)	Births			Deaths			Deaths under 1			Still Births		
		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
The Dearne U. ...	24,620	254	223	477	103	94	197	7	7	14	8	2	10
Aggregate of Urban Districts in the West Riding ...	1,158,200	9296	8499	17795	7577	6885	14462	295	197	492	261	196	457
Administrative County of the West Riding	1,592,600	13026	12000	25026	9799	8705	18504	426	307	733	358	275	633

CRUDE RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION

DISTRICT	Total Live and Still Births	Births	Deaths	Infective and Para. Dis. excl. Tub. but incl. Syph. and other V.D.	Tuberculosis Respiratory	Tuberculosis Other	Tuberculosis All Forms	Cancer	Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	Heart and Circulatory	Respiratory Diseases	Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality	Stillbirth
The Dearne U. ...	487	19.4	8.0	0.04	0.28	0.04	0.32	1.42	1.54	2.07	1.18	—	29.4	20.5
Aggregate of Urban Districts in the West Riding ...	18252	15.4	12.5	0.09	0.17	0.02	0.19	1.99	1.96	4.63	1.39	0.38	27.6	25.0
Administrative County of the West Riding	25659	15.7	11.6	0.08	0.16	0.02	0.18	1.88	1.76	4.26	1.30	0.51	29.3	24.7

* Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths.

† Rate per 1,000 related live births.

Infant Mortality Rate

Nineteen Fifty-two saw the lowering of the Infant Mortality rate in your District to the lowest ever figure of 18 per thousand related live births. In that year eight infants under the age of one year died when 450 live births were registered.

In 1953 there were 477 live births recorded in the Dearne Urban District and 14 Infants under the age of one year died, giving an Infant Death rate of 29 per thousand related live births. As I have previously stressed, wide fluctuations of this nature will occur from year to year because of the statistically low number of live births involved.

A better guide to the trend of Infant Wastage in your area can be obtained by aggregating several years figures together, and the following table compares the relative figures and rates of the five years preceding Divisionalisation in 1948 with the five years after that year.

Period	Total Live Births	Total Still Births	Total Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Infant Death Rate per 1,000 related Live Births
1944-48 (inclusive)	2,713	80	148	28.9	54.5
1949-53 (inclusive)	2,459	59	77	23.4	31.3

From the above table it will be seen that although there has been a reduction of over 250 live births in the last five years, the Infant Death rate has been lowered by nearly 50% while the Still Birth Rate has been reduced by 30%.

The progress made is therefore not unsatisfactory.

The following table shows complete details of Live Births, Still Births, Infant Deaths and Maternal Deaths in your District over the past 16 years:—

Year	Live Births	Total Still Births	Total Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Maternal Deaths
1938	485	17	25	3
1939	448	14	40	—
1940	431	19	21	—
1941	520	13	24	—
1942	442	19	32	2
1943	483	13	34	—
1944	582	20	33	1
1945	527	9	36	—
1946	547	19	23	—
1947	566	11	29	—
1948	491	21	27	—
1949	539	8	24	1
1950	527	15	13	1
1951	466	16	18	—
1952	450	10	8	2
1953	477	10	14	—

It is interesting to note that five deaths in infants under one year of age occurred over the Christmas period, mainly from Bronchitis and Pneumonia.

The following Tables show the causes of death, the age of these infants, and the time of year at which death occurred:—

Cause of Death	AGE AT DEATH									
	Weeks				Months					
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	1-2	2-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	Total
Prematurity	5									5
Congenital Malformation ..	1						1			2
Pneumonia and Bronchitis ..						1	2			3
Gastro-Enteritis ..							1			1
Convulsions ..							1			1
Asphyxia ..	1									1
Asphyxia, accidental..							1			1
TOTAL ..	7					1	6			14

Infant Deaths

January	-	} First Quarter 1
February	...	...	...	...	...	1
March ...	...	...	...	...	...	-
April	1	} Second Quarter 3
May	...	...	...	...	...	2
June	...	...	...	...	...	-
July	2	} Third Quarter 2
August	...	...	...	...	...	-
September	...	...	...	...	...	-
October	1	} Fourth Quarter 8
November	...	...	...	...	...	2
December	...	...	...	...	...	5

Maternal Mortality

I am pleased to report that there were no Maternal Deaths in your District during 1953.

SECTION B

1. General Provision of Health Services for the Area

Full particulars of the Public Health Officers of your Authority are printed at the beginning of this Report.

(a) Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Medical Research Council Laboratory, Wakefield, which is under the direction of Dr. L. A. Little.

During the year copies of reports have been received in this office showing results in respect of the undermentioned:—

Throat Swab examinations and fæces samples for infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Water sample results	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Milk Tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Tuberculosis cultures	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Ice Cream Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
						Total	295

The testing of samples of blood of expectant mothers for Rh factor and Kahn examinations are carried out by the Blood Transfusion Laboratory at Sheffield under the direction of Dr. C. C. Bowley.

(b) Ambulance Facilities

The ambulance facilities for your District are under the supervision of the County Ambulance Officer and the local depot for this service is at Dunford House, Wath-on-Dearne, where six vehicles were available. An additional reserve vehicle is also stationed at Wath-on-Dearne.

(c) Nursing in the Home

In 1953, 12,496 visits were made by Home Nurses to patients in the Dearne Urban District. The comparative figures for 1952, 1951 and 1950 were 11,825, 12,687 and 10,261 respectively. Of the visits in 1953, 4,765 were paid to patients over 65 years of age and 1,246 to children under 5 years of age.

The Home Nursing Staff in your District at the 31st December, 1953, consisted of two Queen's Nurses and one State Registered Nurse, two of whom possessed motor cars for use in the course of their duties. An additional Relief Nurse was appointed to the Divisional Staff during the year.

Through the medium of the Home Nursing Service I think it can be fairly claimed that General Practitioners have been able to make available to patients at home the modern treatments hitherto available only in hospital. The aged person who can be assisted by means of the Home Nurse and Home Help is also much happier in familiar surroundings than in hospital.

The work of the Home Nurse has been greatly appreciated by the general public and by my colleagues in general practice.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics, including Clinics used solely for Diagnosis and Consultation

THE DEARNE URBAN DISTRICT

Child Welfare Centre, Miners' Welfare Hall, Washington Road, Goldthorpe

Monday:	9.30 a.m. to 12 Noon—Minor Ailments Clinic. 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.—Infant Welfare Clinic.
Thursday:	2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.—Ante-Natal Clinic.

Child Welfare Centre, Central Hall, Houghton Road, Thurnscoe

Monday:	9.30 a.m. to 12 Noon—Minor Ailments Clinic.
	2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.—Infant Welfare Clinic.
Tuesday:	3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.—Immunisation Clinic.
Friday:	2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.—Ante-Natal Clinic.

In addition to the above, classes are held on Monday mornings at Goldthorpe and Friday mornings at Thurnscoe for the Group Training of Mental Defectives who do not attend Occupation Centres.

(e) Child Welfare Centres

The two Child Welfare Centres in your District are still accommodated in hired premises, and are not entirely satisfactory for this purpose.

Attendances at the Infant Welfare Clinics in your area during 1953 compared with the figures for the years from 1949 are as follows:—

(a) Goldthorpe

	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949
Under 1 year of age ...	2,060	2,193	2,698	2,360	2,507
Over 1 year of age ...	430	316	496	454	119

(b) Thurnscoe

Under 1 year of age ...	3,406	3,423	3,504	3,249	3,331
Over 1 year of age ...	695	819	874	686	826

(f) Ante-Natal Clinics

At the beginning of 1953, Dr. J. C. MacWilliam was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. J. C. A. Renshaw as Medical Officer in charge of the Local Authority's Ante-Natal Clinics and Obstetrician to the Maternity Unit at the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough.

The Ante-Natal Clinics held each week at the Child Welfare Centres in Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe, were therefore under Dr. MacWilliam's care.

Our records indicate that 373 expectant mothers made 2,050 attendances at these Ante-Natal Clinics during the year. This suggests that the average percentage of all expectant mothers who attend the Local Authority's Clinics remains at nearly 90% as in the previous two years.

(g) Tuberculosis Dispensaries

The new Chest Clinic with X-ray facilities situated at Whateley House, Cemetery Road, Mexborough, was opened by the Regional Hospital Board in September, 1953, and the premises in Market Street, Mexborough, and 8, Goldthorpe Road, Goldthorpe, were closed down.

The Clinic is under the medical care of Dr. F. C. N. Holden, and Dr. R. L. Sadler, and a part-time Nurse is provided by the Hospital Board.

To maintain liaison between the medical staff of the Chest Clinic and the Public Health Staff, arrangements were made for the attendance of a Health Visitor at each of the morning sessions.

(h) Venereal Disease Clinic

A treatment and diagnostic clinic is held at 12, Frederick Street, Rotherham, and there are other clinics at Barnsley, Sheffield and Doncaster.

(i) General Hospital Services

General Hospital Services for your District are in the main provided by the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, Barnsley Beckett Hospital, and Moorgate Hospital, Rotherham.

The after-care service for patients discharged from hospitals has been continued throughout the year and further details are given later in this Report.

(j) Infectious Diseases Hospitals

Cases of infectious diseases in your District requiring hospital isolation are admitted either to Kendray Isolation Hospital, Barnsley, or the Isolation Hospital, Doncaster.

No difficulty was experienced in obtaining accommodation for cases requiring hospital treatment during the year.

(k) Maternity Hospitals

The Maternity Block of the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, Listerdale Maternity Home, Wickersley, and St. Helen Hospital, Barnsley, have all provided accommodation for booked maternity cases on a priority system of admission.

During 1953 there were 531 institutional births to mothers normally resident in the whole of this Medical Division, and 353 of these occurred in the Maternity Unit of the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough. The majority of the remaining births took place in Listerdale Maternity Home, Wickersley, Western Hospital, Balby, and St. Helen Hospital, Barnsley.

2. Mental Health Service—Dearne Urban District, 1953

The following are details of mental health patients in the Dearne area who were being supervised under the Mental Deficiency Acts, during 1953:—

Training	... ..	5 children attending Doncaster Occupation Centre. 16 receiving home training. 14 attending group training classes.
Institutional vacancies	...	11 vacancies are required for adults and children.
West Riding Patients	...	54 under Statutory Supervision. 11 under Voluntary Supervision. 3 under Guardianship. 1 on licence from Institution.
Hospital Board Patients	...	5 After-care patients.

Mental Health — General

The year 1953 saw little change in the progress of this Service in this Division. The need for an Occupation Centre or suitable facilities for training purposes is still a major problem to be faced.

With the appointment of a Home Teacher whose duties are confined solely to patients resident in this Divisional area, it was possible to arrange weekly Group Training Classes at the various Child Welfare Centres in the area. A weekly class is now held at each of the Child Welfare Centres in your District. The classes are well attended and are proving to be successful.

Another difficulty is experienced in obtaining suitable work for mental health patients, and there is a need for sheltered employment in the area as a whole.

Admissions to Institutions

There are now 11 patients in your District who are waiting institutional care.

After-Care Service

The After-Care Service for patients discharged from Mental Hospitals is improving gradually, but with many changes in staff during 1953, these patients did not receive the attention they might otherwise have enjoyed.

A table setting out the position with regard to patients being supervised under the Mental Deficiency Acts in the Dearne Urban Area is set out below:—

	Div. 30	The Dearne U.D.
1. No. of defectives ascertained during 1953	8 (5)	3 (4)
Total No. of defectives ascertained ..	141 (135)	68 (65)
2. No. under Guardianship	6 (5)	3 (3)
No. under Statutory Supervision ..	110 (101)	54 (47)
No. under Voluntary Supervision ..	25 (23)	11 (11)
No. on licence from Institution ..	3 (1)	1 (—)
3. No. awaiting Institutional Vacancies	22 (15)	11 (7)
No. attending Doncaster Occupation Centre	9 (10)	5 (5)
No. being home trained	30 (11)	16 (4)
No. attending Group Training Classes	35 (24)	14 (12)
Reports made for Regional Hospital Boards (Institutional Patients) ..	17 (8)	7 (5)
After-care patients (Mental Hospital) under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act	13 (12)	5 (3)
Numbers in brackets are corresponding figures for 1952		

3. Maternity and Child Welfare

(i) Health Visiting

At the 31st December, 1953, there were three fully-qualified Health Visitors and two assistant Health Visitors employed in your District, three of whom possessed motor cars.

The work of the Health Visitor is essentially to teach, help and advise mothers as to the best means of promoting their own health and welfare and that of their families. To obtain the best results, therefore, it is essential that there should be close co-operation with the General Practitioners in the area. Such liaison is evident in your District.

During 1953, Health Visitors in the whole of this Division made 37,077 visits to homes in the District. Of this high total, the Health Visitors employed in the Dearne Urban District paid 15,063 visits compared with 11,424 in 1952, i.e., an increase of over 3,500 visits.

The Health Visitor is also concerned with the following up of families who present a social problem, particularly where there are neglectful mothers and bad home conditions—factors which contribute to juvenile delinquency. In this respect, Quarterly Meetings were held by me at Mexborough of a Committee whose function is to correlate information regarding children who may be neglected or ill-treated in their own homes, and the Health Visitors who attend these meetings are able to offer much valuable information.

With the provision of more houses in your District there is less overcrowding, resulting in a better standard of hygiene in families.

In October, 1953 the visiting of families where there was a case of tuberculosis became the responsibility of the Health Visitor. Previously this work had been undertaken by a Tuberculosis Health Visitor. Thus the Health Visitor became truly all-purpose.

(ii) Domiciliary Midwives

Five Midwives and one Relief Midwife were employed in the Dearne Urban District at the 31st December, 1953, and all were authorised to use their private motor cars in the course of their duties.

Relationship and co-operation between the Domiciliary Midwives and the General Practitioners in your area in 1953 continued to be very good.

Over three-and-a-half thousand visits were made by Midwives to expectant mothers in their homes before the birth of their children and additionally these mothers attended the Ante-natal Clinics in nearly nine out of every 10 cases. Advice regarding diet, personal hygiene, etc., was offered to the expectant mothers.

Domiciliary midwives in your District also made nearly 6,000 post-natal visits including those to mothers who had been confined in hospital but had been discharged before the fourteenth day.

Applications for Institutional Confinements

In the Dearne Urban District during 1953, 185 applications were received on behalf of expectant mothers who wished to be confined in hospitals or Maternity Homes. Of these applications, 159 were accepted, all but 10 being booked into the Maternity Unit at the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough.

Because of the shortage of beds in Maternity Units it has been necessary since 1948 to screen all applications and award priorities—Priority I where there is any medical or obstetric indications; Priority II for cases where there are adverse social conditions; and Priority III where the expectant mother is about to have her first baby or having her fifth or subsequent child.

The booked cases in your District last year were graded as follows:—

Priority I	...	...	29 cases
Priority II	...	...	79 cases
Priority III	...	...	41 cases

It will be seen from the above that half of these cases were booked into hospitals because of poor home conditions, mainly caused by relative overcrowding.

Gas and Air Analgesia

Of the 277 expectant mothers who were confined at home in your District last year, 172 received Gas and Air Analgesia, i.e., 62%. This is an increase of 14% over last year. The Divisional figure for Gas and Air Analgesia is 65%.

Supplies of Pethidine Hydrochloride for use by injection at confinements were also made available to Midwives during the year, under the Dangerous Drugs Regulations.

4. Vaccination and Immunisation

Facilities for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria and vaccination against Smallpox are available at both Child Welfare Centres in your Urban District.

The clinic at Goldthorpe is in the medical charge of Dr. B. R. A. Demaine and at Thurnscoe under the care of Dr. F. J. Boyle. The sessions are as follows:—

Child Welfare Centre, Washington Road, Goldthorpe

Monday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Child Welfare Centre, Houghton Road, Thurnscoe

Tuesday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

In addition to the facilities detailed above, immunisation against Diphtheria and vaccination against Smallpox can be undertaken by each family doctor in the District.

It will be noted from the table overleaf that only one-third of the children in your District under the age of 5 years are protected against Diphtheria by immunisation, although over 93% of all children of school age in the Dearne Urban District have been protected.

The level of immunisation in children under 5 years of age is not nearly high enough to maintain the present position where no notifications or deaths from Diphtheria are being received, and unless more children are immunised in infancy, the possibility of an outbreak of Diphtheria cannot be disregarded. It should, therefore, be a point of honour for all mothers to have their infants immunised before the first birthday, and I cannot stress this point too strongly.

In addition to these facilities for immunisation against Diphtheria, the scheme introduced in 1952 for the immunisation of children against Whooping Cough has continued during 1953, and the response has been fairly good. In this respect, however, the effects of Whooping Cough are well known to mothers and there is a natural tendency to have their children protected against it, whereas the deadliness of Diphtheria by virtue of the immunisation campaign in the past, is almost forgotten.

I am pleased to report that there was a slight increase in the number of children under 1 year of age who were vaccinated against Smallpox in 1953, 31 children having received primary vaccination, against 12 in the previous year.

However, there is obviously more need for children to be vaccinated against Smallpox, especially in these days of fast air travel, when the disease can be spread fairly rapidly.

I set out overleaf full details of statistics relating to Diphtheria immunisation and vaccination against Smallpox for the year ended 31st December, 1953, with regard to your District.

STATISTICS RELATING TO DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Urban District	No. of Children Immunised in 1953			No. of Children Immunised at any time up to 31/12/53			Estimated mid-year population in 1953			Percentage Rate	
	under 5 yrs.	5-14 years	Total	under 5 yrs.	5-14 years	Total	under 5 yrs.	5-14 years	Total	under 5 yrs.	5-14 years
The Dearne U.D.	166	163	329	717	4752	5469	2154	5100	7254	33·3	93·2
											75·4

VACCINATION

The Dearne U.D.	Under 1 yr. 1953	1-4 years 1948-51	5-14 years 1938-47	15 years and over	Total
Primary	31	5	4	29	69
Re-Vaccination	—	—	—	12	12

5. Section 28. Prevention of Illness — Care and After-Care

Hospital After-Care

With the resignation of Miss W. J. Bailey in May, 1953, the task of arranging hospital after-care for cases discharged from the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, was taken over by Miss D. M. E. Goldthorpe.

Miss Goldthorpe especially reports on the good co-operation she has received from the medical and nursing staff at the hospital, and she has also had the opportunity of meeting the Rehabilitation Officer at least once during a month to discuss the various cases which may require assistance. Two such cases were assisted during the year as a result of these meetings.

Details of socio-medical conditions in the homes of patients were requested by the Hospital Authorities in respect of 217 cases, and 181 completed forms were returned in this respect.

During their stay in hospital, 115 patients were interviewed whilst 255 were given assistance through this Department after leaving hospital in 1953.

The main service provided to patients discharged from hospital is in the form of advice and help from the Health Visitor, and there were 209 of these cases dealt with. In 34 cases, arrangements were made for the attendance of the Home Nurse, and at a further 10 households, domestic help was provided.

By means of this after-care service it is possible to obtain information regarding infants under one year of age, school children, and provide greater care and supervision in the home for elderly sick people. The family doctor concerned is provided with information regarding the discharge of patients from hospital and of any action which has been requested for the after-care of his patients. The after-care service also ensures that the maximum value of hospital treatment is maintained by the Public Health Services.

6. Section 47. National Assistance Act, 1948

No report was made by me to the Council under this Section during 1953.

7. Home Help Service

During 1953, 144 families in your District were provided with assistance through the medium of the Home Help Service, compared with a total of 113 families in 1952, 129 in 1951, and 131 cases in 1950. These cases were made up as follows:—

	1953	1952	1951	1950
Illness and care of children of school age	24	14	15	38
Tuberculosis	7	1	2	3
Lying-in and care of expect- tant mothers	29	33	58	59
Aged sick and infirm ...	84	65	54	31

It will be seen from the above figures that the main demand for the Home Help Service comes from the homes of the aged sick and infirm. The number of cases being assisted in this category has increased to nearly three times the number in 1950.

In view of the present shortage of beds in hospitals for chronic cases, the provision of a Home Help coupled with visits from the District Nurse appears to be the only means of providing these aged infirm persons with the care and attention they need.

In the whole of this Division during 1953, the number of cases assisted by the Home Help Service increased by 57 to a total of 394. Two hundred and fifty-three of these cases were aged sick and infirm.

8. School Health Service

Dr. B. R. A. Demaine has made the following observations on the work of the School Health Service in your District:—

“The work of the School Medical Service has been carried out in 1953 as follows:—

Routine Medical Inspections of:—

1. Entrants.
2. Junior Leavers.
3. Senior leavers going forward to Juvenile Employment.

Periodic inspections have also been carried out on:—

1. Pre-nursing candidates for entrance to Technical College.
2. Children prior to holidays in camp.
3. Children requiring general anæsthetic for dental treatment.
4. College entrants.

“ A Pædiatric Clinic is held monthly at the Child Welfare Centre, Mexborough. This is visited by the County Pædiatrician, Dr. Harvey, in conjunction with the School Medical Officers. The advice and co-operation at these clinics is much appreciated by the family doctors and the parents, and in addition valuable research is being carried out.

“ Visits to the Sheffield Children's Hospital are carried out once a month, when an insight is obtained of new methods of diagnosis and treatment.

“ An Ultra-Violet Ray Clinic is held twice a week in Mexborough at the Child Welfare Centre. The average number of children for treatment at each session is 35 to 40. Children of pre-school age are treated in addition to school children.

E.N.T.

“ All cases referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon have been examined, but the waiting list for operation is still long in the cases of the older children.

Defective Vision

“ Children found to have defective vision at routine medical inspections are seen within a month by the Ophthalmologist. In many cases co-operation of the teachers has to be sought to ensure that the children derive the full benefit from the glasses when these are obtained.

Diphtheria Immunisation

“ Diphtheria Immunisation was carried out in the schools during April, May and June, when both protective and booster doses were given. It is a regrettable fact that since more protective injections have been given in school, fewer babies are receiving protective doses at the Clinic in their first year. This means an increased risk in pre-school years. The aim should be that only refresher doses be given in school about the ages of 5 and 9.

Handicapped Children

“ Physically handicapped children find placement in Special Schools within a few months and have benefited by the special care and treatment.

“ Orthopædic cases are referred to the Orthopædic Surgeon by the family doctors or the School Medical Officer.

“ Maladjusted children have also had early placement in Hostels, and have benefited in most cases.

Nutrition

“ Nutrition, apart from a few outstanding cases, is well maintained. The number of children taking school meals is falling, but it is difficult to state whether this is due to the greater freedom in buying food or to the rise in price and the inability of the parents to pay the cost.

Educationally Sub-Normal Children

“ The greatest problem is still that of the educationally sub-normal child.

“ The work of the Home Teacher has been a great boon, but owing to the numbers and the area covered the amount of time given to each individual is insufficient. When more cases are admitted to Occupation Centres it will be advantageous to the handicapped child and also to the schools, where many are attending at present.

General

“ Children passing through the schools to-day are better than they were 20 years ago, and entrant children are equally improved. In routine school inspection there has been little alteration in the number of defects found, but the severity has been greatly reduced. The physique of school children has been improved, and the problem before us now is to improve their mental well-being. Behaviour problems have always existed, but to-day we are more aware of the problem and have to acquire the knowledge to deal with the difficulty.

“ Preventive health work begins long before school age, but difficulties appear at school age, and it is the amelioration of these which lie within the province of the School Medical Officer.”

SECTION C

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases

(i) Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis

Five cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified in your District in 1953, four of which were confirmed. One child died from this disease.

There was again a minor outbreak of Measles and 161 cases were notified. However, the outbreak was not nearly so widespread as in 1952 when 380 cases were notified. There were no fatalities.

The number of cases of Whooping Cough notified during 1953 at 111 compared with a total of 113 cases notified during the previous year.

There was a higher incidence of Scarlet Fever in your District during 1953, occurring mainly in the 3 to 10 year age group.

Seventy-six cases were notified in all, and all but one were confirmed. The majority of these cases were admitted to Infectious Diseases Hospitals.

Notifications of Pneumonia in your District are still above the average for the country. Eleven deaths were notified from this disease in 1953.

It is pleasing to note that there were no confirmed cases of Food Poisoning in your District during the year, although two cases were originally notified under this heading.

One case of Diphtheria was notified but was subsequently re-diagnosed as Tonsillitis.

I set out below full details of all the infectious diseases, other than Tuberculosis, which have been notified to me during the year, and also a Table showing the age groups in which these cases occurred:—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING 1953
DEARNE

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases After Correction	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever . . .	76	75	57	—
Whooping Cough . .	111	111	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	5	4	5	1
Measles	161	160	3	—
Pneumonia	48	47	6	11
Erysipelas	9	9	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	1	—
Food Poisoning	2	—	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	4	4	—
Malaria	1	1	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	1	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (CORRECTED) 1953

AGE DISTRIBUTION

DEARNE

AGE	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Polio- myelitis (Paralytic)	Measles	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Meningococcal Infection	Puerperal Pyrexia	Malaria
Under 1 year ..	—	14	1	7	8	—	1	—	—
1— 3 years ..	5	22	1	48	4	—	—	—	—
3— 5 „ ..	27	38	1	56	6	—	—	—	—
5—10 „ ..	40	35	1	48	3	—	—	—	—
10—15 „ ..	3	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
15—35 „ ..	—	—	—	—	7	2	—	4	1
35—45 „ ..	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
45—65 „ ..	—	—	—	—	8	2	—	—	—
65 and over ..	—	—	—	—	7	4	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	75	111	4	160	47	9	1	4	1

2. Tuberculosis

Forty new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified in your District during the year ended 31st December, 1953. This represents an increase of 16 new cases over 1952.

During the year the work of Tuberculosis Visiting was handed over to the All Purpose Health Visitor, and is now only second in importance in the Health Visitor's duties, to the control of infant wastage.

It may be that the increase in contact tracing and modern methods of detecting the disease is accounting for the increase in the number of fresh cases discovered during the year.

I am of the opinion that new cases are being found earlier and the possibility of a cure is thus enhanced.

Arrangements continued during 1953 for the Vaccination with B.C.G. vaccine of children living in households where there was a known case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and in all since this scheme started 66 children in your District have been given the added protection of B.C.G. Vaccination against contracting Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Extra Nourishment

At the 31st December, 1953, 50 people in your District were being provided with extra nourishment in the form of 2 pints of milk per day, and issues were made of large quantities of wax sputum cartons to patients in order to prevent the spread of this disease.

Seven families in which there was a person suffering from Tuberculosis were provided with domestic help in the year under review and five patients were supplied with beds and bedding in order to arrange sleeping segregation from the rest of the family.

Generally I think it is reasonable to say that the death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis has in recent years been steadily reduced, and although in your District there were seven deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis and one death from other forms of Tuberculosis (representing an increase of three deaths in all over 1952) the death rate is only slightly above the average for the country.

Accommodation in Sanatoria was obtained more easily for female adults during the year, whilst the waiting period for male adults often extended from three to four months.

The new Chest Clinic situated at Whateley House, Cemetery Road, Mexborough, was opened in the latter half of 1953 by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board, and X-ray facilities are now available locally.

Dr. F. C. N. Holden, the Consultant Chest Physician, and Dr. R. L. Sadler, Assistant Chest Physician, are in medical charge of the Clinic, and a Part-Time Nurse is provided by the Hospital Board.

Arrangements were made for a Health Visitor to be in attendance at each of the morning sessions at the Clinic, where she is able to obtain such information regarding patients of your District as may be required to provide the necessary care and after-care at home and to assist in the prevention of the spread of the disease.

There also appears to be a general change in the outlook of Tuberculosis patients and although there is still some stigma attached to the disease by the public, there has been, on the whole, an increasing response to advice offered by Doctors and Nurses.

It would also appear that the All Purpose Health Visitor is more acceptable as a Visitor by the family than a Nurse whose duties are identified solely with Tuberculosis.

Arrangements have been made for the Mass Radiography Unit to visit your District again in the near future, and it would seem probable that this Unit will be able to visit the area every two years.

The following tables show the number of deaths from Tuberculosis recorded in your District since 1938, when the Dearne Urban District Council came into being, together with the number of new cases notified during the same period:—

Deaths from Tuberculosis — (Registrar General's Figures)

Year	Dearne U.D.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pul.
1953	7	1
1952	5	—
1951	9	2
1950	15	—
1949	13	2
1948	20	1
1947	22	1
1946	17	1
1945	16	2
1944	16	2
1943	15	1
1942	9	3
1941	14	—
1940	15	3
1939	11	3
1938	11	3

Notifications of Tuberculosis (New Cases)

Year	Dearne U.D.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pul.
1953	40	1
1952	29	5
1951	26	3
1950	20	6
1949	38	7
1948	38	1
1947	26	2
1946	18	1
1945	19	1
1944	20	4
1943	—	—
1942	—	—
1941	—	—
1940	18	5
1939	—	—
1938	24	13

The following tables detail the number of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1953 and the age groups in which they occurred:—

DEARNE

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1953

NEW CASES

Age Periods			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Years			M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	..	..	—	—	—	—
1—5	..	..	2	—	—	1
6—15	..	..	1	2	—	—
16—25	..	..	8	5	—	—
26—35	..	..	3	2	—	—
36—45	..	..	1	4	—	—
46—55	..	..	2	—	—	—
56—65	..	..	1	—	—	—
66 and over	..	..	6	2	—	—
Age Unknown			1	—	—	—
TOTALS	..	..	25	15	—	1

DEATHS

Age Periods			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Years			M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	..	..	—	—	—	—
1—5	..	..	—	—	—	—
6—15	..	..	—	—	—	—
16—25	..	..	—	—	—	—
26—35	..	..	—	—	—	—
36—45	..	..	—	2	—	—
46—55	..	..	2	—	1	—
56—65	..	..	2	1	—	—
66 and over	..	..	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	..		4	3	1	—

DEARNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

for the year 1953

To the Chairman and Members of the Dearne Urban
District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In compiling this Annual Report—a review of the year's work of your Sanitary Inspectors and the various duties undertaken by the Department—I feel that my experience of the area since its formation in 1937 and of the old Bolton on Dearne urban area since 1931 allows me to comment on the improvements effected and also respecting matters on which further progress would benefit the populace.

The state of the majority of privately owned houses so far as general fitness gives concern to all. The rapid deterioration in this class of property commenced during the last war and while some repairs have been carried out since that time, in general, these have failed to make good the arrears of work. During the year under review it appeared evident that new legislation would be introduced in the near future to allow some rent increase on condition that repairs carried out at the houses were such as to make them fit. I note with some satisfaction that more and more householders are "house-proud," often one finds tenants who have at their own cost effected improvements such as the fitting of a modern range, or a more sanitary type of sink. Maintenance repairs, including external painting, carried out by owners would give further encouragement to such tenants. There is a tendency for drab surroundings to influence the people.

The work of abatement of nuisances, and this phrase has often been extended to include maintenance repairs, has been continued. Legal action was necessary in one case which resulted in a Nuisance Order being made against the owner concerned.

The provision of Dust Bins by the Council may have more beneficial results than when first considered. Under the system now operating it is a rare exception to find a very defective ash-bin in use in our area. In the past spillage of refuse from such worn out refuse receptacles was a menace to public health.

Reports were placed before you concerning the many "temporary dwellings" which remained in occupation and although you continued your policy, one which is sound and in keeping with your eminently satisfactory housing programme, of refusing to grant licences for the occupation of caravans and the licensing of sites for same, no positive action to effect their removal was made. In connection with the provision of new houses the N.C.B. site at Thurnscoe Bridge Lane, Thurnscoe (272 houses) was completed by December, while the N.C.B. scheme at Bolton on Dearne was progressing. This latter scheme comprises 692 houses, there being 291 houses completed at the end of 1953, the remaining 401 will be occupied in the year 1954. Refuse collection from these new sites has been made far from easy by the many difficult approach paths to the houses often including narrow and numerous steps, particularly does this apply on the Bolton N.C.B. site. The Council's house building programme on the Whin Wood Estate was continued, 202 of the 230 houses are now occupied.

In connection with "slum" premises, four wooden houses, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 Parish Hall Street, Thurnscoe, were cleared informally. Closing orders were made in connection with two houses, Nos. 6 and 10 Church Street, Bolton on Dearne having regard to the effect that their demolition would have on an adjoining fit house. Notices regarding unfitness under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, were served respecting house No. 15 Thornley Square, Thurnscoe, and a temporary wooden structure in Willow Lane, Bolton on Dearne.

In the latter case an undertaking that the premises would be used only for purposes other than for human occupation was accepted. A Clearance Order was made on the 2nd December respecting two large old houses Nos. 42 and 44 High Street, Bolton on Dearne.

Pollution of the atmosphere by smoke remained a serious problem. Most of the colliery chimneys both within and without the district have regularly emitted black smoke. Domestic fuel appliances, some of which are constructed to burn smokeless fuel and many to burn solid fuel fairly economically have to cope with a rather lavish supply of soft bituminous coal, to the detriment of the air we breathe. If smokeless fuel could be provided in such amounts as to replace all raw coal the problem would be much nearer solution.

The attention of your Sanitary Inspectors has once again been directed towards routine inspection of foodstuffs offered for sale for human consumption, and also of the premises including vehicles, on which they are found. Individuals engaged in the food trade were subject to control and it is good to find that, in general, improvement in methods of food preparation, sale, etc., has continued.

The report which follows attempts to record the general work of your Sanitary Inspector's Department—investigation and abatement of nuisances, housing work, food supply including milk and dairies, and the inspection of “cottager” pigs, ice cream, the investigation of notifiable infectious diseases, the inspection of offensive trades, work in connection with the Shops Act, disinfection and disinfestation of premises, rats and mice destruction and many other details. A special section is devoted to the work of Public Cleansing including the salvage of saleable material.

Inspectorial Staff

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

G. H. ALLEMBY, C.R.San.I., Cert. Insp. of Meat and Other Foods, Cert. R.S.I. Smoke Inspector, Shop Acts Inspector.

District Sanitary Inspectors:

W. WEBSTER, C.S.I.B.

T. DUFFY, C.S.I.B., Cert. Insp. of Meat and Other Foods.

Clerical Assistant to the Sanitary Inspector:

Mrs. B. HUTSON

The salaries of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and District Sanitary Inspectors are contributed to by grants from the Ministry of Health.

Mrs. B. Hutson joined the Department on the 19th January, 1953, resigning at the end of the year.

Sanitary Inspection of the District

During the year the following inspections were made:—

General inspections as to complaints, nuisances, etc.	...	2,208
Inspections and re-inspections of verminous premises	...	68
Drains tested (smoke, colour, etc.)	... ..	25
Re-inspections as to compliance with notices, etc.	...	569
Inspections as to works in progress	... ..	39
Contractors seen as to works	... ..	70
Owners seen as to works	... ..	54
Inspections in reference to infectious diseases	... ..	111
Smoke observations	... ..	69

Inspections of:—

Grocer's shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Caravans (Tents, Vans and Sheds)	...	...	...	...	...	...	162
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
General Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	112
Tripe Sheds, Maggot Factory	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Allotment-killed Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	162
Hairdressers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	368
Premises re rodent infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	364
Food preparing premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	133
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	359
Swimming Bath	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Ice Cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Markets	...	...	...	...	...	...	234
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Food Hawkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
							5,915

Notices

Informal notices numbering 445 were issued in relation to matters arising from the inspections and in 58 cases formal notices were served.

At the end of the year, 528 nuisances and defects remained on the books and 1,270 had been remedied during the year.

ACTION UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Inspections were made in connection with nuisances and defects at 951 houses while defects at 921 houses were remedied during the year; in connection with those remaining on the books further action is pending.

The following statement shows the nuisances abated and the defects remedied in and around dwellings other than Council-owned dwellings:—

House Repairs

House roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	16
Eaves Spouts, fall pipes or vent shafts renewed, repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	67
Fireplaces or ranges, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	28
Sink waste pipes and sinks, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	20
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	17
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	41
Internal walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	75
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Water, supply pipes repaired, supply improved	...	...	...	...	...	48
Walls, external brickwork repointed	...	...	...	...	...	19
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	24
Outbuildings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Yard surfaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	11
Hot water systems repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wash coppers, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Boundary Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ashbins renewed	...	...	...	...	...	389

Drains

Taken up and relaid	...	...	...	...	...	18
Opened and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	99
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Gullies cleansed or provided	...	...	...	...	...	5

Water Closets

Obstructions removed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water supply-pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	45
Flush pipe joints repaired	...	...	...	...	...	9
Pedestals renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Apartments generally repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Outgo pipe joint repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1

Other Nuisances, etc., abated

Houses cleansed or rid of vermin	...	...	...	...	31
Accumulation of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	5

HOUSING

The following statistics indicate the work carried out in connection with housing during the year:—

Number of dwelling houses in the district	...	...	...	7,261
Number of back-to-back houses included in above	...	...	...	Nil

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	997
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	997
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated regulations	46
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	46
(3) Number of dwelling houses needing further action:—	
(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	989

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	893
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	56
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	28
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation	2
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the closing orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	60
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	114
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	534
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	19
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	10
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	110

NEW HOUSES

5. Number of new houses provided during the year:—

By Local Authority:

Permanent type	76
Temporary type	Nil

By Private Enterprise:

Coal Industry Housing Association	563
Other Development	1
	—
	564

6. Housing Act, 1949

Any action in connection with Section 20 "Grants to persons other than Local Authorities for improvement of housing accommodation"	Nil
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ACTION UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS

Houses not in all respects fit

Under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and the Housing Consolidated Amendment Regulations, 1932, 46 inspections of dwelling houses were made and particulars recorded.

During the year 24 houses were made in all respects fit.

Clearance Area

Section 25 Housing Act, 1936

Representations were made to the Council in November and a Clearance Order made in December respecting 2 houses Nos. 42 and 44 High Street, Bolton on Dearne.

Section 11 Housing Act, 1936

Reports were made respecting unfit dwellings under the above Section concerning No. 15 Thornely Square, Thurnscoe, and a wooden outbuilding in Willow Lane, Bolton on Dearne. At the year end the occupants of the first named house were awaiting rehousing, while the family from the wooden premises were accommodated by the Council, the owner giving an undertaking not to use the premises for human occupation.

Action by the Department prior to the outbreak of the war had resulted in two unfit houses 6 and 10 Church Street, Bolton on Dearne, being closed. During the year under review both these premises were let, illegally, by the owner. Steps were taken to terminate the occupation although later demolition orders were revoked and Closing Orders made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

Tents, Vans and Sheds

The Department is pleased to record that the remaining two Nissen huts on the Lowfield Road ex-W.D. Camp Site were closed and demolished during the year, the occupants being rehoused by the Council in March. The history of the gradual reduction in use of these unsuitable shacks as dwellings reflects credit upon the Council.

At the beginning of the year 17 caravans were stationed and used as dwellings within the Dearne. These vans were situated as follows: Highgate 8, Thurnscoe 7, and Bolton on Dearne 2. While there are no licensed caravan sites in Dearne and the Council have maintained a policy not to issue licenses for caravans to be used as dwellings, it adopted a rather tolerant attitude to the users of the first few vans introduced into the area early in 1951. These were mainly workers connected with outcrop coal mining and later persons engaged on contracting work on the N.C.B. Housing Estates. It is unfortunate that these form the nucleus of what threatens to become a "shanty" town, for on the largest site, one situated off

Nicholas Lane, Highgate, are, besides several very well constructed moveable dwellings, many less desirable temporary premises including a double-decker omnibus, one or two single deck buses, vehicles originally used for furniture removal and other such unsuitable living accommodation. At the end of 1953 the caravan community within the Dearne had increased by 3 premises making a total of 20 vans situated as follows: Highgate 14, Thurnscoe 2, Bolton on Dearne 4.

At the time of writing this you had before you a full report on the situation and I am pleased to say, decided that the terms of the Public Health Act, 1936, should be enforced. The year 1954 should see a very great change in the general situation so far as temporary dwellings in your area.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

Type of Convenience & Receptacle	Bolton and Goldthorpe	Thurnscoe	Barn-burgh	Total	Percentage 1953
Water Closets ..	4,622	3,560	39	8,221	99.97
Midden Privy ..	2	—	1	3	0.03
Total Closets ..	4,624	3,560	40	8,224	—
Ashbins.. ..	4,289	3,269	40	7,598	99.95
Privy Pits ..	2	1	1	4	0.05

HAIRDRESSERS OR BARBERS

Control of these traders and their premises is obtained under Section 120 of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951. Registration of 17 hairdressers and their premises had taken place during 1952, while 8 remaining applications were dealt with favourably in 1953 after their premises had been improved making a total of 25 registered premises. Byelaws for the proper carrying on of the trade are administered by my Department and in general there has been no serious contravention of the law.

FOOD SUPPLY

Meat, Milk and Other Foods

Premises and practices connected with the food supply of the district received constant attention from the inspectorial staff throughout the period covered by this report.

Food Premises

There are within the area the following premises concerned in the storage, preparation and sale of food: Butchers 33, General Dealers 102, Greengrocers 20, Confectioners 10, Fried Fish and Chips 26, Bakeries 8, Off-licences 11, Public Houses 11, Clubs 12, Chemists 6, Dairies 1. (See remarks later re Food Hawkers.)

Of these premises 70 are registered for the sale of ice cream under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, while 3 are also registered to manufacture ice cream and 4 to manufacture iced lollipops.

Twenty-two premises are registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. One premise is registered as a dairy under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Inspections and re-inspections of registered food premises totalled 149, 71 visits being paid to ice cream premises and 78 visits to other registered food premises.

While no serious contravention was noted in our contact with food handlers their attention was directed to the necessity for personal cleanliness, particularly in keeping hands clean. During the year a circular letter was despatched to the principal of each food business confirming the need for this and stressing the rule contained in our "Clean Food" Byelaws—that all workers in the foods trade should wash their hands immediately after using a lavatory.

Further particulars respecting food sampling and details of food surrendered as unfit are set out later in this report.

The disposal of all food found to be unfit for sale for human food has been by burying it in the Council's controlled refuse tip.

Registration of Hawkers of Food and their Premises Sec. 76 West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951

At the year end 9 persons were registered as food hawkers within the Dearne while 7 premises used as stores for food intended for sale by such persons had been registered as suitable for that purpose. Although there are obvious difficulties in instituting routine inspections of hawkers' vehicles this is carried out as regularly as possible. There is no doubt with the construction of extensive new housing schemes, large numbers of houses are remote from shops providing conditions favourable to the rapid increase of "mobile shops." Under such circumstances the food hawker must be made to use a vehicle of suitable construction and provided with certain facilities, also he must be prepared to maintain a fairly high standard of cleanliness.

Public Markets

There are two markets held weekly in the area—the Council owned market at Goldthorpe, and the privately owned one at Station Road, Thurnscoe. Food stalls in these markets consist mainly of greengrocery premises, together with confectioners stalls

and a very few wet fish businesses. As mentioned in a previous report the Council provided recently excellent washing facilities and new public conveniences in the Market Place at Goldthorpe. Further improvements should be carried out by the food purveyors directed towards better screening of their wares when exposed on the market stalls.

Conditions so far as washing facilities and lavatory accommodation at the Thurnscoe Market are unsatisfactory although the Market owner has placed certain proposals before the Department and these are under consideration. "Litter nuisances" have occurred throughout the year from the two markets although despite the greater use of wrapping paper the trouble has lessened somewhat possibly due to the anti-litter campaign.

FOOD SUPPLY

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924-1952

Altogether 158 notifications were received from Cottager Pigkeepers concerning the slaughter of 168 pigs and 162 of these were inspected.

The following table shows the incidence of the various diseases amongst pigs slaughtered throughout the district.

	Pigs inspected at :—		
	Thurnscoe	Goldthorpe	Bolton on Dearne
TUBERCULOSIS			
Number of pigs affected	6	4	1
Organs affected :—			
Head	50 lbs.	66 lbs.	14 lbs.
Mesentery	10 lbs.	3 lbs.	—
Lungs	—	5 lbs.	—
Liver	—	4 lbs.	—
OTHER DISEASES			
Number of pigs affected	2	3	3
Organs affected :—			
Heart			
(Pericarditis) ..	—	—	2 lbs.
Lungs (Pleurisy) ..	—	—	6 lbs.
Kidneys (Nephritis)	1 lb.	—	—
Liver (Cirrhosis) ..	—	14 lbs.	—
Liver			
(Peritonitis) ..	—	3 lbs.	3 lbs.
Spleen and Omentum			
(Tumour)	1 lb.	—	—
Diaphragm			
(Pleurisy)	2 lbs.	—	—
Complete Carcase & Offal (Septicaemia)	—	280 lbs.	—

The total weight of pork found to be unfit for human consumption during the year amounted to 464 lbs.

The incidence of tuberculosis amongst pigs was very similar to previous years' levels.

- (1) of the pigs slaughtered on farms 17% were found to be affected.
- (2) of the pigs slaughtered other than on farms (i.e., fed mainly at allotments) 6% were found to be affected.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Eight licences to slaughter or stun animals were issued to slaughtermen during the year. At the end of the year there were 21 licensed slaughtermen in the Dearne Urban District.

Unsound Food

The food listed below was surrendered voluntarily:—

Vegetables 89 tins	Corned Beef 3 lbs.
Tomatoes 159 tins	Dried Prunes 20 lbs.
Meat 194 tins	Biscuits 1 lb.
Fruit 490 tins	Pickles 1 jar
Milk 63 tins	Cheese 22½ lbs.
Soup 1 tin	Bacon 180½ lbs.
Fish 87 tins	Sausage 308½ lbs.
Fish Cakes 131	Cakes 36½ lbs.
Mincemeat 3 jars	Table Jellies 103
Luncheon Meat 11 lbs.	Suet 2 pkts.

MILK AND DAIRIES

Registration of Distributors

Sixty retail distributors of milk were on the register at the end of the year.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

The number of licences in force were:—

				Dealers' Licences	Supplementary Licences
(a) Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	-	4
(b) Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	5	2

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

The number of licences in force were:—

	Dealers' Licences	Supplementary Licences
Tuberculin Tested 	-	1

Sampling of Milk. Biological Analysis—Presence of Tuberculosis

Routine sampling of milk produced from cows in local cow-sheds for presence of tuberculosis was carried out during the year. Nine samples were taken, all of which were reported upon as negative.

Public Swimming Bath

Two samples of water from the Public Swimming Bath, Thurnscoe, were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination, the results being as follows:—

Sample No.	Presumptive B. Coli. in 100 ml. of water	p.H. value	Free Chlorine in 1,000,000 parts of water
1	none	7.4	0.6
2	none	7.2	0.4

The p.H value of swimming bath water should exceed 7 but should not be greater than 8. The chlorine concentration should nowhere be less than 0.2 parts of chlorine per million parts of water, or much greater than 0.5 parts per million.

The above samples were regarded as satisfactory.

Public Water Supply

At times throughout the year the supply of water to certain parts of our area has been inadequate although it is known that the Water Board have schemes in hand to overcome the difficulties. The “hardness” of the supply is a matter for concern knowing that the water suppliers within recent years installed water softening apparatus.

Eight samples of water were taken from various parts of the district for analysis to determine the lead dissolving quality of the water.

Reports received from the analyst indicate that there was little chance of plumbo-solvency with our water supply.

Ice-Cream Premises

Seventy premises were registered at the year end for the sale of ice-cream, including three which were licensed also to manufacture ice-cream and four to manufacture iced lollies.

Eleven samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and provisional grading showed them all to be satisfactory.

Brief details of the samples are given in the table below:—

Sample No.	Place Taken	Date Taken	Result of Methylene Blue Test or Coliform Test	Provisional Grade	Remarks
1	Shop	29/4/53	Not decolourised after 4 hours	1	Satisfactory
2	Shop	29/4/53	Not decolourised	1	"
3	Shop	29/4/53	Coliforms absent in 3 out of 3-1 ml. amounts	Lollie	"
4	Shop	29/4/53	Not decolourised	1	"
5	Shop	29/4/53	Coliforms absent	Lollie	"
6	Shop	29/4/53	Coliforms absent	Lollie	"
7	Shop	29/4/53	Coliforms absent	Lollie	"
8	Shop	29/4/53	Not decolourised	1	"
9	Shop	29/4/53	Coliforms absent	Lollie	"
10	Shop	16/6/53	Not decolourised	1	"
11	Shop	16/6/53	Not decolourised	1	"

Four samples of iced lollipops were taken on 8th September, 1953, for chemical analysis, with the following results:—

Sample No.	12/53	13/53	14/53	15/53
Lead	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6 pts. per million
Copper	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Arsenic	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Zinc	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The four samples were satisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Enquiries have been made into 93 cases of infectious diseases including 75 cases of Scarlet Fever, 12 cases of Gastro-Enteritis and 6 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.

The distribution of these cases was 31 at Thurnscoe and 62 at Bolton on Dearne and Goldthorpe.

The cases at Thurnscoe comprised 21 cases of Scarlet Fever, 7 cases of Gastro-Enteritis and 3 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.

4 The cases at Bolton on Dearne and Goldthorpe comprised 53 cases of Scarlet Fever, 5 cases of Gastro-Enteritis and three cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.

Clearance of Choked Drains

Seventy-eight owners have given general instructions to the Department to deal with blockages to drains and water-closets as they come to notice.

Eighty-nine drains were cleansed under this arrangement at a cost of 4s. 6d. to each owner.

Offensive Trades

One tripe boiler situated at Goldthorpe continued to use premises without causing any nuisance.

The maggot breeding premises at West Moor Lane, Harlington, would be a prolific source of nuisance if neglected. There is no doubt that the materials dealt with, decomposing maggoty animal matter and the finished product — maggots — are fruitful sources of nuisances, yet no serious trouble arose from carrying on the trade. The trade is not scheduled as “offensive” under existing legislation.

Shops Acts

No legal action has been required to deal with contraventions noted in visits to premises. Verbal warnings have been given to many traders for contravention of shop hours and early closing. I am afraid that the legislation respecting Sunday Trading has often been contravened and I welcome legislation—envisaged some long time ago and recommended by the Gower Committee—whereby many of the “exceptions” and “exemptions” allowed in existing Shops Legislation will be wiped out thus facilitating the administration of shop closing hours.

Factories

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Auth.	19	61	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Auth.	31	72	1	—
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Auth. (excluding outworkers)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	50	133	1	—

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	H.M. Referred to	Inspector Referred by	
Sanitary Conveniences ..					
(b) Unsuitable or defective (Sec. 7)	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	1	1	—	—	—

Supply of Ashbins. Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936

The Council’s decision to provide and maintain dust bins where they become defective in lieu of requiring the owner or occupier to do so, was continued during the year.

This service is chargeable to the general rate of the district.

The ashbins supplied during the year were as follows:—

1. Bin renewals to privately owned houses	...	...	372
2. Bin renewals to Council Houses	...	...	162
3. Bins provided to New Houses:—			
(a) Council houses—	76		
(b) Private houses—	564		640
Year’s Total Bins			1,174

Rats and Mice Destruction

Seventy-eight treatments were carried out by the Sanitary Department against rats and mice infestations on land and property in the district. Poisons used following pre-baiting include Arsenic, Zinc Phosphide, Red Squill and Antu. “Warfarin” is also used as a direct poison bait.

Premises	Number of Treatments	Infestation	Type of Treatment
Private Houses	50	Rats & Mice	Poison and Trapping
Business Premises ..	9	Rats	Poison
Sewers	6	Rats	Poison
Schools	3	Mice	Poison
Sewage Works	8	Rats	Poison
Refuse Tips	2	Rats	Poison
TOTAL	78	—	—

Disinfestation

Thirteen houses were treated during the year to rid them of bugs. The rooms were thoroughly sprayed with an insecticide and again at an interval of three weeks.

Thirteen houses were treated for infestation with cock-roaches.

Other infestation dealt with included:—

Silverfish	— 2 houses
Ants	— 1 house
Red Mites	— 1 house
Lice	— 1 house

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(Referring to the year April, 1953, to March, 1954)

The scavenging of the area was undertaken by four teams of four labourers, although the staff was increased later in the year. With each team operated a Karrier Bantam Refuse Collecting Vehicle, a fifth vehicle was maintained as a spare. The rapid growth of our area will necessitate in the near future an adjustment of our working staff together with a re-organisation of scavenging rounds. The two housing sites under construction in our area for the National Coal Board are laid out in such a manner as to add, somewhat unnecessarily, to the work of refuse removal. While the approach paths to most modern houses are lengthy many of those on the N.C.B. sites, and particularly does this apply to the Ingsfield Lane, Bolton scheme, are common to two houses thus introducing at some point on the path an additional sharp angle where the common path divides. There are many situations where a large number of steps have been constructed in such a manner that the removal of a bin filled with house refuse becomes a very difficult and often dangerous task.

With a view to the impending changes a sixth vehicle, another Karrier Bantam, was purchased during the last week covered by this Report.

Protective clothing was again supplied to all members of the scavenging staff, each person being issued with at least one pair of overalls, one pair of rubber boots and two pairs of gloves, while goggles for protection of the workers' eyes had already been issued.

There was no hired team labour employed during the year.

Average Estimated Annual Yield of Refuse from each house.

Year	Thurnscoe	Goldthorpe and Bolton on Dearne
1948	1 ton 6·54 cwts.	1 ton 5·17 cwts.
1949	1 ton 5·82 cwts.	1 ton 2·12 cwts.
1950	1 ton 7·84 cwts.	1 ton 3·73 cwts.
1951	1 ton 6·87 cwts.	1 ton 4·18 cwts.
1952	1 ton 5·20 cwts.	1 ton 4·46 cwts.
1953	1 ton 5·25 cwts.	1 ton 5·00 cwts.

Loads are calculated at $2\frac{1}{8}$ tons each.

The general tendency of the public to economise in the use of solid fuel as it increased in price does not apply to our area. The "home coal" system provides an abundant supply of cheap coal and a consequent heavy yield of house refuse.

Labour—Staff Employed

The staff engaged on the collection of refuse was as follows:—

1st April, 1953 — 31st December, 1953	Four Lorry Drivers Sixteen Labourers
1st January, 1954 — 31st March, 1954	Four Lorry Drivers Twenty Labourers

Two tipmen were occupied full-time on the Council's controlled tips.

One man was engaged in the baling of waste paper, sorting of salvage, and cleansing of public conveniences. Mr. F. W. Bridges who formerly did this work and deputised for the foreman was appointed as foreman on the 16th December, 1953, following the retirement of Mr. A. Pocklington.

The Foreman supervised the work of the scavenging staff, carried out disinfection and disinfestation work, rodent control, and cleansed all blocked drains of property where the owners have agreed to participate in the Council's scheme to liberate such blockages.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The average number of premises on our weekly collection list for the past year was 7,492 for the district of Dearne, comprising 4,268 at Bolton on Dearne and Goldthorpe, 3,184 at Thurnscoe and 40 at Barnborough. The number of receptacles were: Bolton on Dearne and Goldthorpe 4,289, Thurnscoe 3,269, Barnborough (Green Lane) 40, making a total of 7,598 refuse receptacles. This means that there were 653 more refuse receptacles to scavenge weekly as compared with 1952.

Trade Refuse

Nineteen premises remained on the list for trade refuse removal and a small charge was made for the service. Collections made from some businesses consisted mainly of saleable salvage, paper, cardboard, etc., no charge being made in these cases.

Clinker and refuse have been removed regularly from all schools in the district.

Collection cost per House

The annual cost of collecting refuse from each house and conveying it to the disposal site was £1 8s. This compares with £1 7s. for last year and £1 7s. 11d. for 1951/2.

Wage rates rose in the 12 months April, 1953, to March, 1954, by 4s. per man weekly.

The cost of collecting a bin, emptying and conveying the refuse to the tip was approximately 6d.

DISPOSAL

Controlled tipping has been employed solely in the disposal of the district's refuse. Much trespass, with consequent fires, has been our experience particularly from the "Ingsfield Lane" and "Marsh" tips.

A scheme was prepared in co-operation with the Council's Surveyor, Mr. F. Baxter, whereby a disused brickworks quarry and adjoining land at Ingsfield Lane, Bolton on Dearne will be converted into a recreation ground. With the large new centre of population in the area it is a worthy project although finance is a deciding factor and one which so often slows down progress. However, most of the long process of levelling with domestic refuse has been carried out while stacked on its surface are large deposits of soil cover ready for a time more opportune when further progress can be made.

Summary of Loads

Bolton on Dearne District

(Including Goldthorpe and Green Lane, Barnborough)

	Lorry Loads
Marsh Tip, Goldthorpe	782
Lidget Wood Tip, Thurnscoe	715
Station Road Cutting, Bolton on Dearne	578
Ingsfield Lane Tip, Bolton on Dearne	283
Brickworks Pond, Goldthorpe	54
Beever Street Allotments, Goldthorpe	41
	<hr/>
	2,453

Thurnscoe District

Marsh Tip, Goldthorpe	688
Lidget Wood Tip, Thurnscoe	625
Station Road Cutting, Bolton on Dearne	453
Ingsfield Lane Tip, Bolton on Dearne	216
Brickworks Pond, Goldthorpe	46
	<hr/>
	2,028
Grand Total (loads)	4,481
Expressed as Tons ($2\frac{1}{8}$ tons per load) (tons)	9,523

Salvage Incentive Bonus Scheme

The Salvage Incentive Bonus Scheme was continued during 1953. During the first six months, January to June, a workman who was employed the full 26 weeks drew a total bonus of £1 19s. 1d. In the second period, July to December, a full six months work entitled a workman to a total bonus of 12s. 8d.

The basis of the scheme is:—

From the total salvage sales in a six months period the costs of collecting and disposing of the salvage (labour and materials) is deducted. The sum remaining is shared equally between the Council and the workmen.

SALVAGE

Year: April 1st, 1953 to March 31st, 1954

The quota system which restricted our deliveries to seven tons per month was lifted in May, allowing us to despatch as much waste paper as we could handle. The "mixed paper" price of £6 10s. per ton was guaranteed as a minimum until the 31st March, 1955. On December 1st the price for baled newsprint dropped 10s. to £9 10s. per ton, and that of fibreboard went up 10s. to £9 per ton. Due to the improved price offered for fibreboard it was baled separately from mixed paper, from that date. .

The ratio of mixed waste, fibreboard and newspaper per ton despatched is approximately:—

12 cwts. mixed waste 6 cwts. fibreboard 2 cwts. newspaper

A scrap metal drive was held in September for a period of a week following a request from the Joint Scrap Survey District Committee and $3\frac{3}{4}$ tons were collected and disposed of. The expenses of the effort were the liability of the Scrap Survey Committee.

Materials Salvaged and Sold during the Year

Quantity					Material	Sales		
Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	doz		£	s.	d.
99	10	3	-	-	Waste Paper ...	695	9	10
	11	0	21	-	Rags ...	15	2	1
3	15	1	-	-	Scrap Iron ...	11	5	9
	6	2	-	-	String ...	3	5	0
				25	Tins ...	1	5	0
104	3	2	21	25		£726	7	8

Since the Salvage Scheme commenced in 1940, £9,459 17s. 3d. has been recovered from the sale of 1,385 tons 2 cwts. 3 qrs. 17 lbs. of materials and 11,451 dozen tins, bottles and jars.

PUBLIC CLEANSING — COSTING RETURNS

The Public Cleansing costs are reproduced from the table submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government as required by them from Councils of County Boroughs and Metropolitan Boroughs and of non-county Boroughs and Urban Districts with populations exceeding 20,000.

Scavenging Costs

(Note: The Cleansing Report deals with the period April 1st, 1953, to March 31st, 1954.)

Revenue Account

	Collection	Disposal	Total
1. Gross Expenditure			
	£	£	£
(i) Labour	6140	1560	7700
(ii) Transport	4150	255	4405
(iii) Bin Maintenance, etc. ...	2100	23	2123
	12390	1838	14228
2. Gross Income (including £Nil received from other local authorities)	30	741	771
3. Net Cost	12360	1097	13457

Unit Costs

	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Gross cost per ton, labour only ...	12	9	3	3	16	0
Gross cost per ton, transport only	8	8		6	9	2
Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	25	8	2	3	27	11
	£		£		£	
Net cost per 1,000 population ...	504		45		549	
Net cost per 1,000 premises ...	1648		146		1794	

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

- 10 Area (statute acres)—land and inland water: 3,888 acres.
- 11 Population at 30th June, 1953: 24,620 persons.
- 12 Total refuse collected (tons): 9,628 tons.
- 13 Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year): 21·3 cwts.
- 14 Number of premises from which refuse is collected: 7,500 premises.
- 15 Premises from which daily collection is made: Nil.
- 16 Average haul (Miles) by collection vehicle to disposal points (single journey): 2 miles.
- 17 Kerbside collection, if practised, expressed as estimated percentage of total collection: Nil.
- 18 Total refuse disposed of (tons): 9,628 tons.
- 19 Methods of disposal—Controlled tipping: 100%.
- 20 Salvage and Trade Refuse. Analysis of income and tonnage:

	Income (Included in Item 2) £	Tonnage Collected (Included in Item 12) Tons
Salvage:		
Scrap Metal ...	11	4
Waste Paper ...	695	100
Other Salvage ...	20	1
	<hr/> 726	<hr/> 105
Trade Refuse ...	45	450

Observations—Public Cleansing

The rather rapid growth in new house construction has necessitated an increase in manual labour although it was unnecessary for any additional transport to be provided. The building programme within the Dearne Urban Area is such that a fifth refuse collecting vehicle will have to be operated if present output per vehicle and gang has to be taken as a guide.

The scavenging costs show a considerable increase over those issued in the 1952 Annual Report but there is a ready explanation. The Ministry's table setting out the costing system for the year under review stated, for the first time, that expenditure under any bin renewal scheme administered by a Local Authority be charged against Public Cleansing. The cost of provision of bins reached an unprecedented figure due to the enormous number of new houses provided—the figure was £2,100 and this together with the cost of purchase of a new scavenging vehicle made a total of £3,000. To my mind comparison of costs of cleansing in different districts is unfair without some knowledge of the quality and the facilities offered in the particular service.

Difficulty has arisen from time to time with staff shortages and I am afraid is likely to be more and more acute. Weather conditions have not been so severe at any time as to disturb seriously the work.

I have commented previously in the report on the work undertaken at the old Brickworks Quarry, off Insfield Lane, towards ultimately the formation of a sports field and recreation ground. The disposal of the district's refuse by controlled tipping has been assured for some years to come having regard to certain sites which are likely to be improved by such treatment.

My oft repeated complaint respecting depot, mess room, garage and workshop for the cleansing staff and vehicles is likely to be met shortly as your Surveyor was engaged at the year end in the design of the necessary accommodation to be provided at the Thurnscoe Station Road Depot.

The scavenging of the district is one of the most important branches of the Public Health Service and I consider that, despite all our difficulties, it was efficient and well maintained throughout the year.

Final Remarks

This report covers a year of steady progress in Public Health work to which your Sanitary Inspectors have contributed in no small measure. In carrying out our duties we have had the willing co-operation and help at all times of our Medical Officer of Health, Dr. J. Leiper.

The Heads and Staff of other departments of the Council have been at all times ready to assist in my work.

From my own staff I have had the loyal support and good work of two competent District Sanitary Inspectors.

To the foregoing Officials I place on record my thanks.

Throughout the year the Chairman and members of the Council have supported me in my work and I appreciate their help.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. H. ALLEMBY, Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing
Superintendent.

July, 1954.

Sanitary Inspector's Department,
Council Offices,
Bolton-upon-Dearne.

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